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Gov. Perdue Urges Citizens to Report Storm Damage

RALEIGH – While state and federal emergency management teams are surveying flood damage in 20 eastern counties, Gov. Bev Perdue is reminding folks to call in to report damages.

"We know that many people in eastern North Carolina need some help to get back on their feet," said Gov. Perdue. "That is why I have instructed our damage assessment teams to work quickly with those communities who have been hard hit by this storm, so we can see what type of funding assistance may apply."

Multiple teams are working simultaneously to assess damages to homes, businesses, roads, public buildings and other infrastructure, as well as to crops, farms and agricultural interests. Once the damage assessments are completed later this week, Gov. Perdue will request federal financial assistance for those counties that meet federal thresholds of eligibility. If the federal government grants that request, it clears the way for FEMA to provide low-interest loans or grants to storm victims.

In the meantime, Perdue said people who have had damage from the storm should follow these steps:

1. People with storm damage to their homes, property, businesses or crops should first call their insurance agent to determine what type of coverage they have and discuss any claims. Homeowners insurance policies typically do not cover damage caused by flooding. Those with flood insurance can file a claim with the National Flood Insurance Program by calling 1-800-638-6620 or visiting www.floodsmart.gov.